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Attorneys for Plaintiff

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF OREGON

PORTLAND DIVISION

DISABILITY RIGHTS OREGON, on behalf of its clients and constituents,

Plaintiff,

v.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Oregon; and the WASHINGTON COUNTY CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY, an intergovernmental entity in the State of Oregon,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:24-cv-00235-SB

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO MODIFY SCHEDULING ORDER (UNOPPOSED)

Plaintiff in the above-captioned matter (the "Action") submits this motion (the "Motion") to respectfully request that the Court modify the operative Scheduling Order (ECF No. 37) to set deadlines for initial disclosures and the commencement of fact discovery of April 25, 2025, as well as extend the existing deadlines therein by eight (8) months pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(4) and Local Rule 16-3. The parties have met and conferred in compliance with Local Rule 7-1 and Defendants consent to this Motion.

Plaintiff brought this Action on February 5, 2024, asserting claims of discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12131, and the Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C. § 794. ECF No. 1. Defendants each filed a Motion to Dismiss in April 2024, which Plaintiff opposed in May 2024, and Defendants replied to in June 2024. ECF Nos. 21, 25, 28, 32, 33. On June 27, 2024, Plaintiff filed the parties' Rule 26(f) Joint Report and Proposed Discovery Plan. ECF No.

36. And on July 1, 2024, the Court issued the operative Scheduling Order, which stated that "the Court will set the deadline for initial disclosures and the commencement of fact discovery after a discussion with counsel at the scheduled oral argument on the pending motions to dismiss" and imposed certain deadlines, including a fact discovery cut off of April 29, 2025. ECF No. 37.

The Court held oral argument on Defendants' Motions to Dismiss on August 29, 2024, and issued its Findings and Recommendation the next day, recommending the denial of the Motions to Dismiss. ECF No. 40. Thereafter, Plaintiff filed a notice of supplemental authority in September (ECF No. 43) and Defendants filed objections to the Findings and Recommendation in October (ECF Nos. 46, 47). On March 27, 2025, the District Court adopted the Findings and Recommendation and denied the Motions to Dismiss. ECF No. 52. In the weeks since then, the parties have begun preparing written discovery requests and anticipate beginning fact discovery in the short term. However, since the issuance of the Scheduling Order, the Court has not yet set deadlines for initial disclosures or the commencement of fact discovery.

Local Rule 16-3 provides that "objections to any court-imposed deadline must be raised by motion" and (1) "[s]how good cause why the deadlines should be modified," (2) "[s]how effective prior use of time," 3) "[r]ecommend a new date for the deadline in question," and (4) "[s]how the impact of the proposed extension on other existing deadlines." L.R. 16-3(a). Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b)(4) similarly requires "good cause" to modify a case schedule. Pursuant to these rules, a district Court "may modify the pretrial schedule" if the schedule "cannot reasonably be met despite the diligence of the party seeking the extension." *Trevari Media LLC v. Cantu*, No. 6:23-CV-01879-MTK, 2025 WL 895376, at *7 (D. Or. Mar. 24, 2025). The "primary factor" in in this analysis is "whether the party seeking amendment was diligent in pursuing the amendment." *Leinbach v. Sawyer & Sons Constr. LLC*, No. 3:20-CV-00378-AC, 2020 WL 5638627, at *1 (D.

Or. Sept. 1, 2020), report and recommendation adopted, 2020 WL 5637398 (D. Or. Sept. 21, 2020).

Plaintiff moves to modify the Scheduling Order to set deadlines for initial disclosures and the commencement of fact discovery as well as to extend the existing deadlines by approximately eight (8) months, which corresponds to the amount of time between the issuance of the Scheduling Order on July 1, 2024, and the Court's denial of the Motions to Dismiss on March 27, 2025. Specifically, Plaintiff recommends the following deadlines, to which Defendants consent:

Event	Current Deadline	Proposed Revised Deadline
Initial Disclosures	N/A	April 25, 2025
Open of Fact Discovery	N/A	April 25, 2025
Deadline for Amendment of Pleadings/ Joinder of Parties	60 days after decision on Motion to Dismiss	60 days after decision on Motion to Dismiss
Close of Fact Discovery	April 29, 2025	January 2, 2026
Deadline for Joint Alternate Dispute Resolution Report	April 29, 2025	January 2, 2026
Deadline for Expert Disclosures and Initial Expert Reports	May 30, 2025	January 30, 2026
Deadline for Rebuttal Expert Reports	July 30, 2025	March 30, 2026
Close of Expert Discovery	September 29, 2025	May 29, 2026
Deadline for Dispositive Motions and <i>Daubert</i> motions	October 28, 2025	June 28, 2026
Deadline for Responses to Dispositive Motions	December 02, 2025	August 2, 2026
Final Pre-Trial Conference	To be set by the Court	To be set by the Court
Trial	To be set by the Court	To be set by the Court

Such modification is appropriate under Local Rule 16-3 and Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(4) because the parties made "effective prior use of time" and there is "good cause" for the modification—or, in other words, because the parties have acted "diligent[ly]" at all times. See Leinbach, 2020 WL 5638627 at *1. Specifically, as discussed above, the parties expeditiously litigated this case after its initiation in February 2024 by engaging in motion practice from April 2024 through October 2024 on two Motions to Dismiss, including by submitting motion papers and participating in oral argument ahead of the Court's Findings and Recommendation and submitting supplemental authority and objections thereafter.

Pursuant to the Court's Scheduling Order, which anticipated that the Court would set a date for "initial disclosures and the commencement of fact discovery," the parties did not initiate discovery pending the Motions to Dismiss. ECF No. 37; see Pinnacle Great Plains Operating Co., LLC v. Wynn Dewsnup Revocable Tr., No. 4:13-CV-00106-EJL-CW, 2015 WL 759003, at *3 (D. Idaho Feb. 23, 2015) (finding diligence under Rule 16 where "deadline expired before . . . parties engaged in any discovery, because [parties] agreed to not pursue discovery . . . until the Court resolved [Defendant's] motion to dismiss."). Since the Court denied the Motions to Dismiss approximately four weeks ago (on March 27, 2025), the parties have diligently begun preparing written discovery, met and conferred on the case schedule, and now seek modification of the schedule. See, e.g., Portland Eng'g, Inc. v. ATG Pharma Inc., No. 3:19-CV-02010-AC, 2020 WL 5437731, at *5 (D. Or. Sept. 10, 2020) ("[A] party generally demonstrates diligence by moving to amend within weeks of learning new information."). The parties agree that the current schedule does not provide adequate time to complete discovery, including because the current deadline for fact discovery is next Tuesday, April 29, 2025, which "cannot reasonably be met despite the diligence of the part[ies]." See Trevari, 2025 WL 895376, at *7.

Based on the foregoing, Plaintiff respectfully submits that modification of the Scheduling Order is warranted. Plaintiff accordingly requests, with Defendants' consent, that the Court modify the schedule as requested herein to set deadlines for initial disclosures and the

commencement of fact discovery and to extend the existing deadlines Scheduling Order by eight (8) months.

Dated: April 23, 2025 Respectfully submitted,

> /s/ Julian Clark Julian Clark Jenn Rolnick Borchetta American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, Inc. 125 Broad Street, 17th Floor New York, NY 10004-2400 jclark@aclu.org jborchetta@aclu.org (929) 969-4365

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Attorneys for Plaintiff

I hereby certify that on April 23, 2025, I served the foregoing Plaintiff's Unopposed Motion to Modify Scheduling Order on the parties below by electronic means through the Court's Case Management/Electronic Case File system.

> /s/ Julian Clark Julian Clark

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